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# News Release

In Cooperation with Clemson University

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## **FARMERS INTEND TO HARVEST LESS COTTON AND TOBACCO, BUT PLANTING INTENTIONS UP FOR CORN, HAY, SOYBEANS AND SMALL GRAINS**

The March Prospective Plantings Survey, recently completed by the USDA NASS South Carolina Field Office, indicated that SOUTH CAROLINA farmers intend to harvest less tobacco and cotton this year while corn, hay, soybeans and small grain planting intentions are up from 2006.

CORN growers currently expect to plant 390,000 acres in 2007. This is up 26 percent (80,000 acres) from the acreage planted in 2006, and up 30 percent from 2005.

COTTON growers currently intend to plant 200,000 acres in 2007. This is down 33 percent (100,000 acres) from 2006, and 25 percent below 2005.

TOBACCO acreage for harvest in 2007 is expected to total 20,000 acres. This is down 13 percent from 2006, but 5 percent above 2005.

SOYBEAN acreage is expected to total 430,000 acres in 2007 – up 8 percent (30,000 acres) from 2006 and unchanged from 2005.

WHEAT acreage planted for the 2007 crop is set at 160,000 acres - up 23 percent (30,000 acres) from 2006 but down 6 percent from 2005.

SORGHUM acreage for this year is expected to total 11,000 acres, unchanged from 2006 and up 10 percent from 2005.

OATS, including both fall and spring plantings, are expected to total 36,000 acres - up 9 percent from 2006 and up 3 percent from 2005.

PEANUT acreage for 2007 is expected to total 60,000 acres, up 2 percent from 2006, but down 5 percent from 2005.

HAY acres for harvest this year are expected to total 410,000 acres - up 14 percent (50,000 acres) from 2006 and up 41 percent from 2005.

SWEETPOTATO planted acreage is expected to be 600 acres, down 25 percent from 2006 and down 33 percent from 2005.

### **UNITED STATES 2007 PLANTED ACRES AND PERCENT OF 2006 <sup>1/</sup>**

Soybeans	67.1	Mil. Ac.,	89 %	Sorghum	7.11	Mil. Ac.,	109 %
Corn	90.5	Mil. Ac.,	115 %	Hay, All	63.1	Mil. Ac.,	104 %
Cotton, Upland	11.9	Mil. Ac.,	79 %	Peanuts	1.20	Mil. Ac.,	96 %
Wheat, Winter	44.5	Mil. Ac.,	110 %	Tobacco, F.C.	212	Thou. Ac.	99 %
Oats, Planted	4.03	Mil. Ac.,	97 %	Sweetpotatoes	92.9	Thou. Ac.	97 %

<sup>1/</sup> All Hay and Tobacco acreages for harvest.